

6333. Adulteration of tuna fish. U. S. * * * v. National Wholesale Grocery Co., a corporation. Plea of guilty. Fine, \$100. (F. & D. No. 7380. I. S. Nos. 510-1, 512-1.)

On April 24, 1917, the United States attorney for the District of Massachusetts, acting upon a report by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the District Court of the United States for said district an information against the National Wholesale Grocery Co., a corporation, doing business at Fall River, Mass., alleging shipment by said company, in violation of the Food and Drugs Act, on or about April 29, 1916, and April 15, 1916, from the State of Massachusetts into the State of New York, of quantities of an article labeled in part, "California Tuna," which was adulterated.

Analysis of samples of the article by the Bureau of Chemistry of this department showed that the contents of all the cans examined had a disagreeable, rancid odor, that the oil had leaked out of most of the cans, and that the inside surface of the tops of all the cans showed corrosion. The material was decomposed and putrid in the case of all the cans examined. The contents of all the cans showed high bacterial count, none of them being sterile.

Adulteration of the article in each shipment was alleged in the information for the reason that it consisted, in whole or in part, of a filthy, decomposed, or putrid animal substance.

On November 6, 1918, the defendant company entered a plea of guilty to the information, and the court imposed a fine of \$100.

C. F. MARVIN, *Acting Secretary of Agriculture.*